

STAYING GREEN

January 2006

COUNTY LEADERS CERTIFIED

We're proud to have certified the offices of three members of the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors,

Mark DeSaulnier, John Goia & Gayle Uilkema. Led by Mark DeSaulnier, our Supervisors can now boast that

they are the only elected officials in the Bay Area certified as Green Businesses! We truly appreciate their leadership.



Smart Lights

brighten your bottom line

GREEN TIPS.....

If reducing your energy bill and improving your lighting at a fraction of the cost you would normally pay sounds good to you, then Smart Lights may be for you! Funded by the CPUC, they specialize in working with small businesses like yours to increase the efficiency of your lighting—and they do so with a complete, turnkey operation: They assess your specific lighting needs, arrange for one of their pre-screened contractors to promptly change out your lighting, perform a quality control inspection, and then give you a bill that is typically 40 to 60% of the full project cost. In short, they do all the work so that you can run your business—and it saves you money in lowered monthly energy bills.

For a typical business that has lights on for ten hours per day, six days per week, retrofitting a typical 4-lamp fixture will save nearly 125 kilowatt hours per year. With a mere ten fixtures, that would save you about \$ 200 annually. If this type of savings appeals to you and you would like a representa-

"We've always been concerned about the environment, designing our state of the art facility ... to efficiently manage energy, water and waste. We are especially proud to have been the first car wash in the Bay Area to qualify and encourage all businesses to carefully manage and minimize their impact on the environment."

Steve Terry
Brentwood
Car Wash

WE'RE NOW IN BRENTWOOD!

In 1998, when we first began our program, the City of Brentwood had very little in place to help businesses with water conservation, recycling and protecting sewer and storm drains. Now, because they have a terrific Public Works staff ca-

pable of doing those things, we're able to bring the Green Business Program to Brentwood! We've certified the Brentwood Car Wash and Kendall Automotive, and are close to certifying Budget Blinds and the City's Fleet Mainte-

nance Operations. Good job, Brentwood!



GETTING TO KNOW OUR GREEN BUSINESSES: BING'S RESTAURANT

Bing Crosby's Restaurant & Piano Lounge in Walnut Creek is our *first* full-service restaurant to become certified! What makes them green? Restaurants hire vendors to do a number of things—and Bing's makes sure they have good environmental practices: Their laundry company uses less water and energy than others; their grease is recycled; their janitors use less toxic cleaners; and their floor mats must be cleaned so that nothing reaches storm drains. And Bing's monitors them to

ensure good work.

Bing's is also conscious of reusing linens when they can, using organic foods when possible, and using state-of-the-art appliances and lighting to reduce energy and water use. Executive Chef Frank Palmer feels that "It's just good business sense to be environmentally friendly." They work closely with staff on how to be green, and always follow through to keep the restaurant in compliance.



Bing's is proud to talk about its environmental leadership.

And by the way, Bing's is in good company: Jardiniere, San Francisco's premier restaurant, whose chef Traci Des Jardins had a recent victory on Iron Chef America, is also a Green Business!

GREEN TIPS (CONTD.)

tive of Smart Lights to visit you to assess your lighting needs (and potential savings, give Robin at the Green Business Program a call!

WELCOME NEW GREEN BUSINESSES!

Auto Tune-Up, Antioch
Bing Crosby's Restaurant,
Walnut Creek
Board of Supervisor
Members Mark
DeSaulnier, John Goia &
Gayle Uilkema
Brentwood Car Wash
Concord Toyota
ConeHeads Ice Cream,
Antioch
Eagle Shield, San Ramon
EBMUD Treatment Plants:
El Sobrante, Lafayette,
Orinda & Walnut Creek
Enviro Star, Walnut Creek
Hae Now, El Sobrante

House Shining Cleaning
Services, El Sobrante
Independent Volvo
Service, Walnut Creek
Jenny K., El Cerrito
Kendall Automotive,
Brentwood
Lin Spier Construction,
Martinez
Malaya (Healing)
Center, Pleasant Hill
Marine Spill Response
Corp., Concord
Performance Auto/
Volvo, Walnut Creek
Performance Auto
works, Martinez

RabbitEars Pet
Supplies, Kensington
Roofmax, Concord
Roussell's Auto Service,
Walnut Creek
Save On Smogs,
Pleasant Hill
Shelterbelt Builders,
El Cerrito
Sycamore Associates,
Walnut Creek
The Covello Group,
Walnut Creek
Walnut Creek City Parks
Walnut Creek Honda
Well-Grounded Coffee,
El Cerrito

WHAT'S UP IN THE PROGRAM?

► **East Bay Business Times** ran a full page of pictures of some of Alameda County's Green Businesses, along with a story about Mechanics Bank being certified! **Brentwood Press** did a wonderful story on Brentwood Car Wash's being certified! And **Sunset Magazine** featured a Green landscaper in its July issue.

► **The Healthy Planet, Healthy People** event (January 27—Pleasant Hill—healthmedicine.org/main.html) will focus on green medicine, nutrition & energy. If you'd like to exhibit, let me know! .

► The Green Business **business cards** are once again being delivered to all of you. And soon we'll have available a **countertop display of our Green Business decal**—for those of you with no window space!

